

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5276

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 3773

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, IS, SW, XA

SUBJECT: RABIN MEETINGS WITH PALME AND WALDHEIM

REF: STOCKHOLM 3759

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR (IDAN) HAS BRIEFED ME ON MEETINGS OF PRIME MINISTER RABIN WITH PRIME MINISTER PALME AND UNSYG KURT WALDHEIM.

2. ACCORDING TO IDAN, PRIME MINISTER RABIN, HAVING RECEIVED PM PALME'S LAST MINUTE INVITATION TO AUGUST 2 MEETING OF SOCIALIST LEADERS (REFTTEL), POSTPONED HIS SCHEDULED DEPARTURE FROM STOCKHOLM 24 HOURS.

3. IN ONE HOUR CONVERSATION WITH PALME ON EVENING OF AUGUST 1, THE FORMER DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN SWEDEN AND ISRAEL (DATING BACK TO FEBRUARY MEETING OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL IN BERLIN), WERE RESOLVED, AND BOTH LEADERS AGREED THAT AMICABLE TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SOCIALIST PARTIES HAVE NOW BEEN RESTORED.

4. EARLY ON AUGUST 3, SEC. GEN. WALDHIM TELEPHONED RABIN FROM VIENNA, REQUESTING AN IMMEDIATE MEETING. RABIN PROPOSED HOLDING MEETING SAME MORNING AT STOCKHOLM AIRPORT TO WHICH WALDHEIM AGREED, AND THE TWO MEN MET AT NOON. PRINCIPAL TOPIC OF SG'S PRESENTATION TO RABIN WAS KAMPALA MEETING OF OAU WHERE, ACCORDING TO WALDHEIM, SOME OF THE

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NON-ISLAMIC STATES REFUSED TO GO ALONG WITH PROPOSAL

TO EXPEL OR SUSPEND ISRAEL FROM U.N. REASON FOR THEIR
STANCE WAS AFRICAN DISCONTENT WITH RISING PRICE OF OIL.

5. ACCORDING TO IDAN, RABIN WAS SOMEWHAT NON-PLUSSED BY
SG'S PRECIPITATE FLIGHT TO STOCKHOLM FOR BRIEF CONVERSA-
TION. RABIN REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT WALDHEIM'S
PRINCIPAL MOTIVATION WAS TO REEMPHASIZE HIS OWN ROLE
(AS WELL AS THAT OF U.N.) IN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE MID-EAST
SETTLEMENT, I.E. AN EXERCISE IN "PUBLIC RELATIONS,"
AS ISRAELI AMBASSADOR PUT IT.

6. INCIDENTALLY, AT REQUEST OF PRIME MINISTER RABIN,
ISRAELI AMBASSADOR INVITED ME TO FAMILY SUPPER EVENING
OF AUGUST 1. CONVERSATION WAS GENERAL IN NATURE AND
DID NOT TOUCH ON CURRENT MID-EAST NEGOTIATIONS. BY MEANS
UNKNOWN TO US, REUTERS LEARNED OF THIS PURELY SOCIAL
OCCASION AND REPORTED IT.

7. AT THE AUGUST 2 MEETING, IDAN SAID THE SOCIALIST
LEADERS NOT ONLY ASSURED RABIN OF THEIR OWN DETERMINATION
TO BLOCK EFFORTS TO OUST ISRAEL FROM U.N., BUT ALSO
PROMISED TO APPROACH OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO SEEK THEIR
SUPPORT IN THIS CAUSE.

8. COMMENT: IT SEEMS TO US THAT BATTLE (AGAINST ATTEMPT
TO OUST ISRAEL FROM U.N.) HAS BEEN WON BEFORE IT HAS
BEEN FOUGHT. STRAUSS-KHAN

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